

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Dirk GRUNDMANN et al.

Conf.

Application No. **NEW NONPROVISIONAL**

Group

Filed March 12, 2004

Examiner

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE**  
**FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 12, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☒ Copies of the U.S. patents or publications are not submitted since the USPTO has waived their submission for applications filed after June 30, 2003.
- ☐ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☐ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should have been forwarded from the International Search Authority pursuant to the trilateral agreement between the USPTO, EPO and JPO, or they are U.S. patents or U.S. published applications. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE  
(check at least one box)

- a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached non U.S. patents, non U.S. patent application publications, foreign publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☐ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ☐ **FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT OR ACTION**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☒ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

The U.S. patents submitted herewith are the equivalents of the European references cited in the specification.

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

*Benoit Castel*

Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041

BC/lmt

Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s)  
☒ Documents  
☐ Foreign Search Report  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION****IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.:  
**03P04059**Application No.:  
**NEW**  
**NONPROVISIONAL**Applicant:  
**Dirk GRUNDMANN et al.**Filing Date:  
**March 12, 2004**

Group Art Unit:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing date (if appropriate)
	6,069,456	5/30/2000	FROMM et al.			
	6,528,946	3/4/2003	ISHIGAMI et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	EP 0 883 160	12/9/1998	EUROPE				
	EP 0 903 770	3/24/1999	EUROPE				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

\* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience

BC:Imt